

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**UNDER 37 CFR §1.56, §1.97, and §1.98**

**PTO-1449 FORM**

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.:

SERIAL NO.:

22963-1241

Not Assigned

APPLICANT:

Alan K. Schaer

**FILING DATE:**

**GROUP ART UNIT:**

July 9, 2001

Not Assigned

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

† EX'R INITIAL	*REF. #	PATENT NUMBER	DATE (MO/YR)	NAME	U.S. CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE (If appropriate)
AK	*A1	3,910,279	10/1975	Okada et al.	606/47	
	*A2	5,163,938	11/1992	Kambara et al.	606/47	
	*A3	5,242,441	9/1993	Avitall	606/41	
	*A4	5,242,443	9/1993	Avitall		
	*A5	5,263,493	11/1993	Avitall	607/122	
	*A6	5,313,943	5/1994	Houser et al.	128/642	
	*A7	5,323,768	6/1994	Saito et al.	606/47	
	*A8	5,341,807	8/1994	Nardela	128/642	
	*A9	5,363,861	11/1994	Edwards et al.	607/122	
	*A10	5,431,696	7/1995	Atlee, III	128/642	
	*A11	5,454,370	10/1995	Avitall	128/642	
	*A12	5,482,037	1/1996	Borghi	128/642	
	*A13	5,487,385	1/1996	Avitall	607/122	
	*A14	5,555,883	9/1996	Avitall	128/642	
	*A15	5,687,723	11/1997	Avitall	128/642	
	*A16	5,863,291	1/1999	Schaer	606/41	4/1996
	*A17	6,001,093	12/1999	Swanson et al.	606/41	10/1995

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

† EX'R INITIAL	*REF. #	PATENT NUMBER	DATE (MO/YR)	COUNTRY	TRANSLATIO (YES/NO)
AK	*B1	EP 554 722	08/1993	EUROPE	NO
	*B2	EP 609 182	08/1994	EUROPE	NO
	*B3	WO 92/19167	11/1992	WIPO	NO
	*B4	WO 94/16619	08/1994	WIPO	NO
	*B5	WO 95/10322	04/1995	WIPO	NO
	*B6	WO 95/15115	06/1995	WIPO	NO
	*B7	WO 95/34259	12/1995	WIPO	NO
	*B8	WO 97/37607	10/1997	WIPO	NO

**EXAMINER'S SIGNATURE**

**DATE CONSIDERED**

† EXAMINER: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609.  
Line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.  
*Include copy of this form in next communication to applicant.*

\* If an asterisk is placed beside the reference number, a copy is not provided because the reference was previously cited by or submitted to the PTO in a prior application that is identified in the statement and relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120, 37 C.F.R. 1.98(d).